

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A secure electronic entity ~~(11)~~, ~~characterized in that it contains~~ adapted to be connected to a host station, said secure electronic entity containing means ~~(18)~~ for measuring time and ~~in that it comprises~~ comprising means ~~(21)~~ for certifying an item of data relating to a date or a ~~duration~~ of receipt of a command from said host station, wherein said certification means ~~(21)~~ receiving from said time measuring means ~~(18)~~ information on said date ~~or said duration~~ and ~~producing~~ produce data certifying said item of data relative to a date ~~or a duration~~ intended for an external entity.

2. (currently amended) The secure electronic entity ~~(11)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said certification means ~~(21)~~ are adapted to supply a certified date ~~or duration~~.

3. (currently amended) The secure electronic entity ~~(11)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said certification means ~~(21)~~ are adapted to certify the authenticity of a date ~~or duration~~ received from the outside.

4. (currently amended) The secure electronic entity ~~(11)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said certification means ~~(21)~~ are adapted to certify that ~~an action~~ has been effected said command has been received from said host station in a given time period or before a limit date.

5. (currently amended) The secure electronic entity ~~(11)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein it further includes synchronization means ~~(18a)~~, said synchronization means are adapted to perform synchronization upon receipt of a message from said host station.

6. (currently amended) The secure electronic entity ~~(11)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said certification means ~~(21)~~ use authentication means, said authentication means are used to authenticate said data certifying said date.

7. (currently amended) The secure electronic entity ~~(11)~~ according to any claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the time measuring means ~~(18)~~ are adapted to supply a measurement of time when said electronic entity ~~(11)~~ is not supplied with power by an external power supply.

8. (currently amended) The secure electronic entity ~~(11)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the time measuring means ~~(18)~~ are adapted to supply a measurement of time when the electronic entity ~~(11)~~ is not supplied with electrical power.

9. (currently amended) The secure electronic entity ~~(11)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the time measuring means ~~(18)~~ are adapted to supply a time measurement independently of any external clock signal.

10. (currently amended) The secure electronic entity ~~(11)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the time measuring means ~~(18)~~ include means for comparing two dates.

11. (currently amended) The secure electronic entity ~~(11)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein it includes at least one subsystem ~~(17)~~ comprising a capacitive component ~~(20)~~ having a leak across its dielectric space, means for coupling said capacitive component to an electrical power supply for it to be charged by said electrical power supply, and means ~~(22)~~ for measuring the residual charge in the capacitive component ~~(20)~~, said residual charge being at least in part representative of the time that has elapsed since the capacitive component ~~(20)~~ was decoupled from the electrical power supply.

12. (currently amended) The secure electronic entity ~~(11)~~ according to claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said means ~~(22)~~ for measuring the residual charge are part of said time measuring means ~~(18)~~.

13. (currently amended) The secure electronic entity ~~(11)~~ according to claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the capacitive component ~~(20)~~ is a capacitor implemented in the MOS technology and whose dielectric space consists of silicon oxide.

14. (currently amended) The secure electronic entity ~~(11)~~ according to claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the means ~~(22)~~ for measuring the residual charge comprise a field-effect transistor ~~(30)~~ having an insulative layer ~~(34)~~, in that the capacitive component ~~(20)~~ includes an insulative layer ~~(24)~~, and in that the thickness of the insulative layer ~~(34)~~ of the field-effect transistor ~~(30)~~ is much greater than the thickness of the insulative layer ~~(24)~~ of the capacitive component ~~(20)~~.

15. (currently amended) The secure electronic entity ~~(11)~~ according to claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the thickness of the insulative layer ~~(24)~~ of the capacitive component ~~(20)~~ is from 4 nanometers to 10 nanometers.

16. (currently amended) The secure electronic entity ~~(11)~~ according to claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein it includes at least two subsystems ~~(17A, 17B)~~ each comprising a capacitive component having a leak across its dielectric space, means for coupling said capacitive component to an electrical power supply for it to be charged by said electrical power supply, and means for measuring the residual charge in the capacitive component, said residual charge being at least in part representative of the time that has elapsed since the capacitive component was decoupled from the electrical power supply, said subsystems ~~(17A, 17B)~~ comprising capacitive components having different leaks across their respective dielectric spaces, and in that said secure electronic entity ~~(11)~~ further includes means ~~(14, 15, T)~~ for processing measurements of the respective residual charges in said capacitive components to extract from said measurements information substantially independent of heat input to said entity ~~(11)~~ during the elapsed time.

17. (currently amended) The secure electronic entity ~~(11)~~ according to claim 16, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said processing means ~~(14, 15, T)~~ include software for calculating a predetermined function for determining said information as a function of said measurements substantially independently of the heat input.

18. (currently amended) The secure electronic entity ~~(11)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein it is portable.

19. (currently amended) The secure electronic entity ~~(11)~~ according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein it is a microcircuit card.

20. (currently amended) The secure electronic entity ~~(11)~~ according to claim 1, wherein the secure electronic entity is an electronic tag.

21. (new) The secure electronic entity according to claim 1, wherein said date determines a duration.